

SUMMARY OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT TOOLS

This data is summarized from a review of four project management tools published in August 1998 in Information Week magazine.

APPLICATION	• REVIEW OF FEATURES
Microsoft Project 98	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong feature set with easy to use interface• New project map which shows steps to defining and tracking new projects.• Supports different views of project including Gantt and PERT charts, resource tracking and calendar views• Supports easy definition, modification, splitting or updating of tasks.• Additional features:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hyperlinks from tasks to supporting document or Web page• Undo feature (inconsistent – according to reviewer)• Support sharing resources using resource pools.• Supports definition of best-case, worst case timelines for tasks and probability for each case• Supports automatic shortening of timeline by adding resources• Supports tracking costs and changing costs in middle of projects• Projects are stored in native format, Oracle Server, Microsoft SQL Server or Microsoft Access 97 databases.• Projects can be saved with read only and read write passwords• Support team interaction using with an MAPI-compliant mailer (Lotus Notes or Microsoft Exchange) or a Web server.• Supports exporting data to be merged with HTML template files to create Web-based reports

APPLICATION	• REVIEW OF FEATURES
Primavera Systems Sure Track Project Manager 2.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geared toward small to mid-size projects. • 16-bit Windows application run on Windows 3.1, 95,98, and NT. • Project KickStart wizard provides managers a way to organize their thoughts into a set of goals, activities to accomplish these goals and resources to assign to each activity. • Supports timing and activity constraints • Supports Gantt Chart and PERT Chart views • Tasks cannot be split to account for delays • Resources can only be assigned one cost for entire project • Supports automatic shortening of timeline with adding resources • Cannot link projects or share resources between projects that are not within the same project group • Does not support storing data in a SQL database • Does not support password protection of data • Team support is dependent on MAPI or VIM-based E-mail systems for routing communications, • Additional feature: check-in/check-out feature to restrict access to each project file. • Supports publishing
Scitor Project Scheduler 7.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important features ease of use and multi-project support • Limited Internet support • Supports simple adjustments to timeline, including the ability to lengthen or shorten tasks, add delays, or split a task, as well as update task progress. • Supports unlimited number of costs (per hour) for each resource, with beginning date for each cost. • Does not support per use charges • No wizard for creating new projects • Guides to help users through more basic processes • Stores projects as project files or in a database • Places passwords read-write and read-only for shared files • Support for teaming provided by add-on product Project Communicator. • Multi-project handling is excellent • Supports resource leveling across multiple projects • Supports reporting on multiple projects

APPLICATION	• REVIEW OF FEATURES
Computer Associates, Super Project 4.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runs on Windows 3.0, 95, 98, NT 3.51+ • Supports multiple views of projects • Users can derive and save new views from toolbar • Calendar view shows daily schedule of tasks for managers • Resources can have multiple sets of variable costs • Supports single set of fixed and overhead costs for resources • New users support with Project Manager's Assistant, • Two levels of help provided with tutorials and samples. • Importing and exporting of project data are supported but SQL data source support requires 16-bit ODBC 2.0 drivers, which many users won't have. • Supports three sets of password-controlled restrictions for users • SuperProject handles multiple projects nicely with support for subproject links, and links to resource pool projects. • Resource leveling across linked projects is also supported • Teaming features available only through SuperProject/Net product, which provides Internet and intranet client, support for project personnel. • Super Project/Net operates only on a Windows NT 3.51 or later server running Microsoft Internet Information Server 3.0 or later and provides client support for any browser capable of using HTML 3.0 • Supports four classes of users: staff, managers, executives, guests • Each class is provided with specific project editing and viewing features, controlled by a text file created by the Administrator • Super Project/Net had the most extensive multi-user I

Following is data from a review of project management tools conducted in 1997; updates were made for Microsoft Project 98 based on reviews of updated functions.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE PACKAGES	ABT Project Workbench	Primavera P3 Suite	Welcom Open Plan	Microsoft Project 98	Scitor Project Scheduler	Primavera Sure Trak 2.0	Time Line
HUMAN FACTORS							
Provides on-line documentation.	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Provides context sensitive help.	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Provides computer-based training.	+	+	√	-	√	+	
Relatively easy to use/short learning curve for basic use or simple projects.	√	-	-	√	√	√	√
Provides e-mail capabilities for project communication.	+	+		√	-	+	-
Has helpful user interface.	√	√		√	√	+	√

LEGEND

- √ Meets factor in the off the shelf software + Performs well as a distinguishing factor
 - Does not perform this factor as well as other products Information not available at this time

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FUNCTIONAL CAPABILITIES ¹							
Supports multi-project integrations across organizational structure.	√	√	-	-	-	-	√
Handles multiple projects.	+	+	√	√	√	√	√
Includes wizards / options for setting up project.	+	+		√	+	+	+
Provides resource and scheduling functions.	+	+	√	-	+	+	+

LEGEND

√	Meets factor in the off the shelf software	+	Performs well as a distinguishing factor
-	Does not perform this factor as well as other products		Information not available at this time

¹ Artemis International Software and Mantix Systems Cascade are comparable products to Open Plan but with additional functionality. Artemis and Mantix Cascade also require an underlying RDBMS to be licensed and maintained. i.e. another Oracle license.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE PACKAGES	ABT Project Workbench	Primavera P3 Suite	Welcom Open Plan	Microsoft Project	Scitor Project Scheduler	Primavera Sure Trak	TIME LINE
TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES							
Provides an unlimited number of projects, tasks, and resources.		√			√		
Provides user security.	√	√	+	-	√	√	√
Provides reporting capabilities.	+	+	-	√	+	+	+
Supports multi users accessing data at the same time.	+	+	+	-	√	+	-
COMMERCIAL CONSIDERATIONS ²							
Initial Price and Training Cost approx. >= 50,000.	√	√	√				
Initial Price and Training Cost approx. < \$50,000.				√	√	√	√

LEGEND

√	Meets factor in the off the shelf software	+	Performs well as a distinguishing factor
-	Does not perform this factor as well as other products		Information not available at this time

² Artemis International software and Mantix Systems Cascade are comparable products to Primavera P3 but require additional expense associated with maintenance.